

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 are pending in this application, of which claim 1 has been amended. No new claims have been added.

The Examiner has rejected the claims as follows:

1. Claims 1-4 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over **Tada et al.** in view of **Hiroshima et al.** (both previously applied).
2. Claims 1-4 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. patent 5,146,193 to Sokola (hereinafter "**Sokola**") in view of **Hiroshima et al.**
3. Claims 1-4 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over **Tada et al.** in view of **Ishikawa et al.** (previously applied).
4. Claims 1-4 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over **Sokola** in view of **Ishikawa et al.**

Applicants respectfully traverse all these rejections.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that one passband and three attenuation poles appear in a dielectric filter of the present invention. This amendment is supported on page 9, lines 13-20 of the specification of the instant application. None of the cited references teaches, mentions or suggests this feature.

Thus, the 35 USC §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, claims 1-4, as amended, are in condition for allowance, which action, at an early date, is requested.


U.S. Patent Application Serial No. **10/667,509**
Response to Office Action dated February 15, 2005

If, for any reason, it is felt that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

In the event that this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Please charge any fees for such an extension of time and any other fees which may be due with respect to this paper, to Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

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